

Where We've Been...And Where We're Going

The Resource Management Planning Process officially started with the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register on April 2, 2004. The NOI announced the Kanab Field Office's intent to prepare a Resource Management Plan (RMP) as well as an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as required under NEPA. The NOI also served as a call for coal and other resource information in the Federal Register. Identification of interests in future coal leasing, substantiated with adequate coal resources data, allows the BLM to address development potential during the RMP process and helps avoid unnecessary work, delays, or RMP amendments.

The scoping period, which was initiated in April 2004, will last until February 15, 2005. The objective of scoping is to involve the public in the planning process and comply with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA). The public scoping process will identify planning issues, develop planning criteria, and evaluate the existing land use plans in the context of the needs and interests of the public.

There are many ways for you to provide comments during scoping. We encourage you to come to one of the scoping meetings, ask questions, and give us your input. In addition to the scoping meetings, BLM will be accepting comments and issues through the following methods:

**Mailed to: Bureau of Land Management
Kanab Field Office
Attn: Keith Rigtrup
318 N. 100 E
Kanab, UT 84741**

Emailed to: comments@kanabrmrp.com

Or visit our website at: www.kanabrmrp.com

The process for soliciting public input and any comments that are submitted during the scoping period will be summarized in a Scoping Report and made available to the public on the project website.

There will be many opportunities to get involved in the planning process. Another series of public meetings and a formal 90-day public review and comment period will occur during the Draft RMP/EIS phase.



The RMP Process

The RMP process starts with the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register, and follows through with Scoping, Environmental Analysis and **Alternatives Development**. Following Alternatives Development, the BLM will evaluate the potential impacts on various resources from each of the alternatives, select a **Preferred Alternative**, Issue the Draft RMP/EIS, Issue the **Proposed RMP/Final EIS**, initiate the **Governor's Consistency Review**, resolve any Protests, and finally sign a Record of Decision.

In close cooperation with cooperating agencies and stakeholders, the BLM will identify a range of reasonable combinations of resource uses and management practices, and develop reasonable **alternatives**. These alternatives address issues identified during scoping and offer a distinct choice among potential management strategies. "No Action" alternative is always included, which is the continuation of current management practices.

The BLM recommends a **preferred alternative** that best resolves planning issues and promotes balanced multiple use objectives.

The BLM will evaluate comments on the **Draft RMP/EIS** and make any modifications needed. They will then file a copy of the Proposed RMP/EIS Proposed Decision with the EPA. This begins the 30-day protest period.

The 60-day **Governor's consistency review** identifies inconsistencies with State or local plans.

Planning for the Future...

The major issues that will be addressed in the plan development are: management and protection of public land resources; management of conflicting and competing uses; access to and transportation on the public lands; and balancing multiple uses. Other specific issues may include:

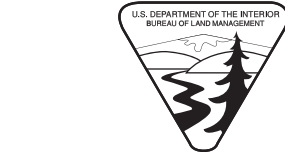
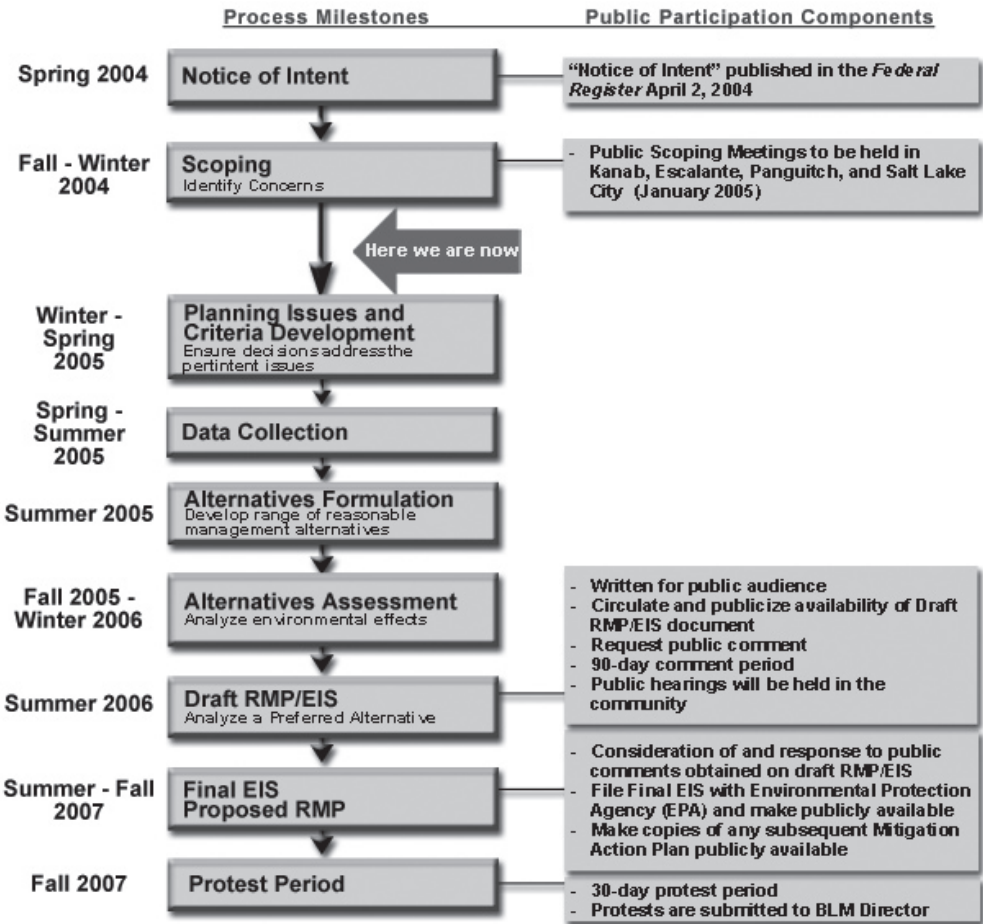
- Cultural Resource Management
- Woodland Harvest and Management
- Rangeland Health/Management Potential
- Special Status Species Management
- Energy and Minerals Management
- Fuels and Fire Management
- Lands and Realty Management
- Special Designation Areas
- Visual Resource Management
- Recreation Opportunities

These issues will be addressed in some manner in the RMP development. These issues are preliminary and may be modified, deleted, and/or new ones added through the scoping process.

An integral component of the Kanab RMP development process is community involvement. Throughout the plan development, BLM expects that various partners, including Cooperating Agencies, the Resources Development Coordination Committee (RDCC), Indian Tribes, Kane and Garfield Counties as well as the Five County Association of Governments, other Federal Agencies, BLM Field Offices, Congressional Delegations, the Utah Resource Advisory Committee (RAC), as well as numerous interest groups and other organizations will become involved in the process and will assist in providing a wide variety of data in support of this effort.

The BLM will work collaboratively with interested parties to identify the management decisions that are best suited to local, regional, tribal, and national needs and concerns.

Kanab RMP/EIS Process and Public Participation Components

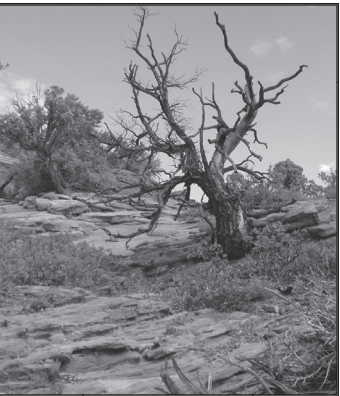


The NOI, Preplan, and other documents developed throughout the planning process are available on the project website at www.kanabrmrp.com



Watch for planning bulletins, like this one, to announce public involvement opportunities, provide an update on plan development, and keep you informed during the process.

The BLM is committed to maximizing community involvement in the RMP development effort in order to achieve agreement from diverse interests on goals, purposes, and needs of the plan.





BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Kanab Field Office
318 N. 100 E
Kanab, UT 84741

PUBLIC WORKSHOP...We Want Your Input

The BLM invites you to attend public scoping meetings throughout the area to provide comments and issues during the scoping period.

Location	Date	Address	Time
Salt Lake City	January 13, 2005	Salt Lake City Airport Hilton 5151 Wiley Post Way Salt Lake City, UT	6:00-9:00 pm
Kanab	January 18, 2005	Kanab City Library 533 East 300 South Kanab, UT	6:00-9:00 pm
Escalante	January 19, 2005	Escalante High School 800 East Highway 12 Escalante, UT	6:00-9:00 pm
Panguitch	January 20, 2005	Triple C Arena 900 North 50 East Panguitch, UT	6:00-9:00 pm

BLM staff will be available at the scoping meetings to explain the process for developing the Resource Management Plan, including public involvement opportunities, and answer any questions. Several methods will be available for you to submit your comments. The meeting will begin with a short over-view presentation on the RMP planning process, and the public will be given an opportunity to provide comments and ask questions.

Visit our website at <http://www.kanabrmmp.com>

Kanab Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement



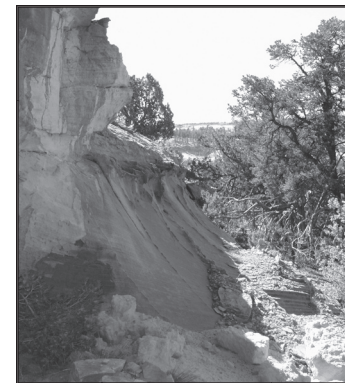
December 2004

The Development of a Plan

The Kanab Field Office, Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM), is developing a Resource Management Plan (RMP) for all the federal surface and mineral estate managed by BLM within the Kanab Field Office boundary throughout two counties in south central Utah—Kane, and Garfield Counties.

The Kanab Field Office manages approximately 600,000 acres of pubic land in south central Utah. The planning area also includes an additional 40,500 acres of public land that falls within the old Escalante Planning Unit. These public lands, although managed by the Grand Staircase

Escalante National Monument (GSENM), will be included in the development of the Kanab RMP.



The overall objective of the Kanab RMP planning effort is to provide a collaborative, community-based planning approach that assists BLM in updating the management and resource allocation decisions of the Escalante, Paria, Vermilion, and Zion Management Framework Plans (MFPs) and the Cedar/Beaver/Garfield/Antimony RMP. Considerable changes

have occurred within the planning area, including heightened public awareness, increased public demand for use of the lands, new threatened/ endangered species listings, and increases in conflict between competing resource values and land uses. Creation of the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument (GSENM) also removed over a million acres out of the Kanab Field Office.

The RMP will explain or identify the current management situations, desired future conditions to be maintained or achieved, management actions necessary to achieve objectives, and a schedule for implementing the actions for achieving those goals.

Contact Information:

Keith Rigtrup
Planning Coordinator
Bureau of Land Management
Kanab Field Office
318 N. 100 E
Kanab, UT 84741
(435) 644-4600

What is a Resource Management Plan?

An RMP is a set of comprehensive long-range decisions concerning the use and management of resources administered by the BLM.

The BLM land use (or RMP) planning process, explained in 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1600, BLM 1601 Manual, and BLM Land Use Planning Handbook (H-1601-1), falls within the framework of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental analysis and decision making process described in the Council on Environmental Quality regulations of 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Department of the Interior NEPA Manual (516 DM 1-7), and BLM NEPA Handbook H-1790-1.

As part of the plan preparation, a supporting Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will also be prepared. Both the RMP and EIS will be developed concurrently with public participation.

To learn more about the Resource Management Planning Process and to add yourself to our mailing list, visit our website at www.kanabrmmp.com

